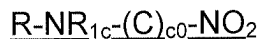
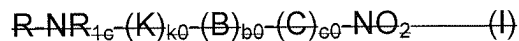


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) Nitrooxyderivatives or salts thereof of formula [(I)]



wherein

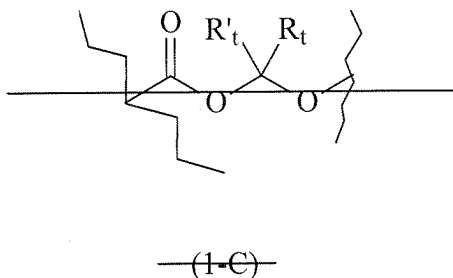
$c_0$  is 1;

$b_0$  is 0;

$k_0$  is 0;

$R_{1c}$  is H;

~~K is (CO) or the bivalent radical (1-C) having the following formula:~~



~~wherein the carbonyl group is bound to  $T_4$ ;  $R_t$  and  $R'_t$ , same or different, are H,  $C_4$ - $C_{10}$ -~~

~~alkyl, phenyl or benzyl,  $\text{COOR}_y$ , in which  $R_y$  = H,  $C_4$ - $C_{10}$ -alkyl, phenyl, benzyl;~~

~~$B = T_B-X_2-T_{B1}$  wherein~~

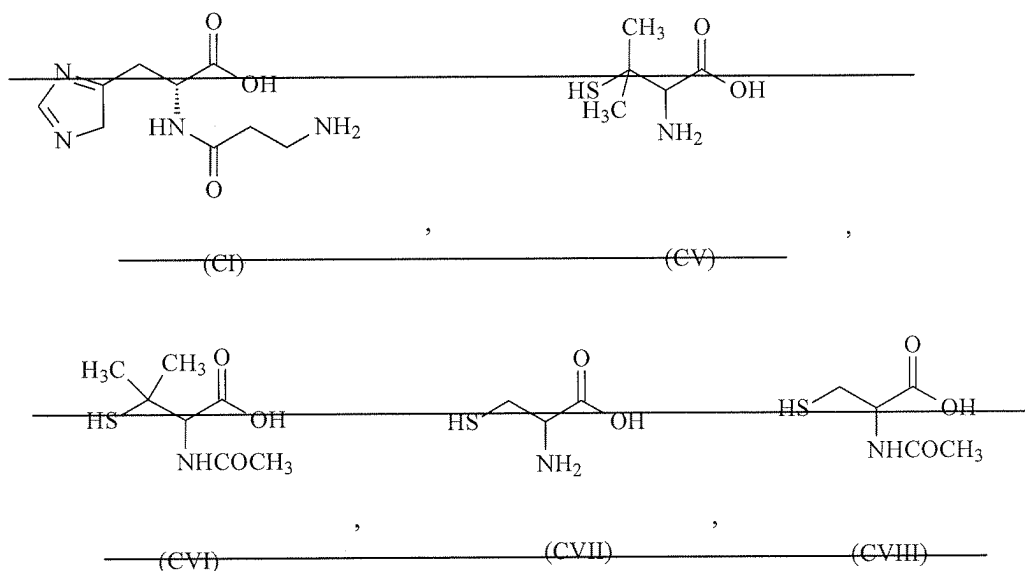
~~$T_B = (\text{CO})$  or  $X$ , in which  $X = \text{O}, \text{S}, \text{NH}$ ;~~

~~$T_{B1} = (\text{CO})$  or  $(X)$ , wherein  $X$  is as defined above;~~

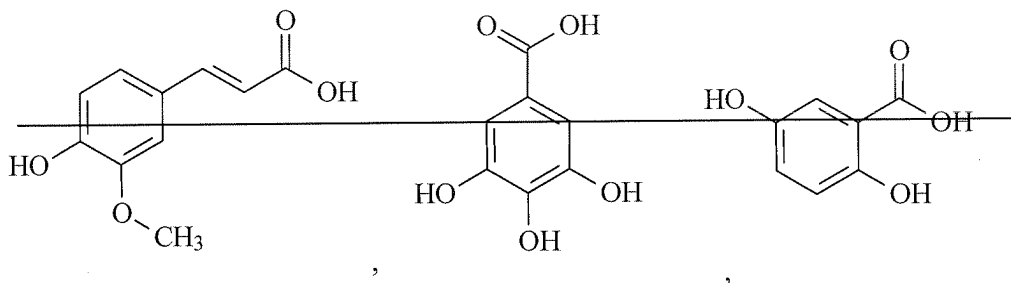
~~when  $c_0 = 0$ , then  $T_{B1} = \text{O}$ ;~~

$X_2$  is a bivalent bridging group, such as the corresponding precursor of B, having the formula  $Z-T_B-X_2-T_{B'}-Z'$  in which Z and Z' are independently H or OH, is selected from the following compounds:

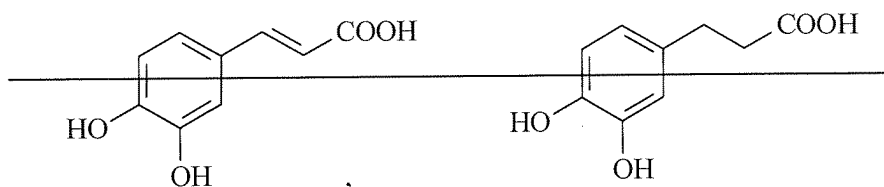
— Aminoacids: L-carnosine (CI), penicillamine (CV), N-acetylpenicillamine (CVI), cysteine (CVII), N-acetylcysteine (CVIII):



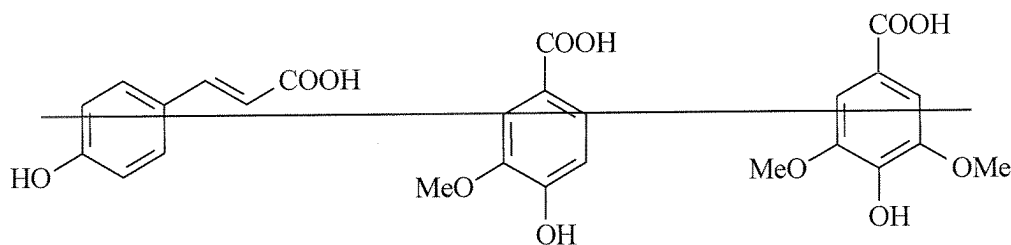
— Hydroxyacids: gallic acid (DI), ferulic acid (DII), gentisic acid (DIII), caffeic acid (DV), hydro-caffeic acid (DVI), p-coumaric acid (DVII), vanillic acid (DVIII), syringic acid (DXI):



~~(DII) (DI) (DII)~~

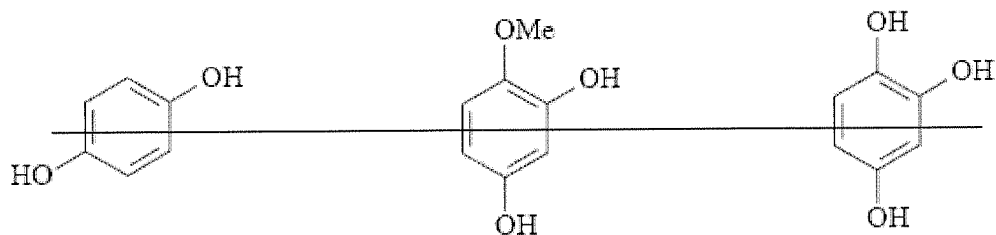


~~(DV) (DVI)~~

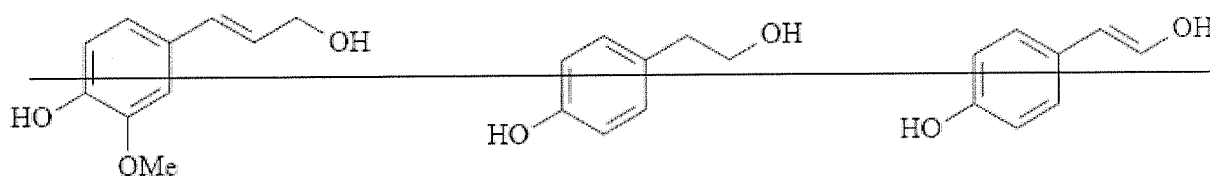


~~(DVII) (DVIII) (DXI)~~

~~Aromatic polyalcohols: hydroquinone (EVIII), methoxyhydroquinone (EXI),  
hydroxyhydroquinone (EXII), coniferyl alcohol (EXXXII), 4-hydroxyphenetyl alcohol  
(EXXXIII), p-coumaric alcohol (EXXXIV);~~



~~(EVIII) ————— (EXI) ————— (EXII)~~



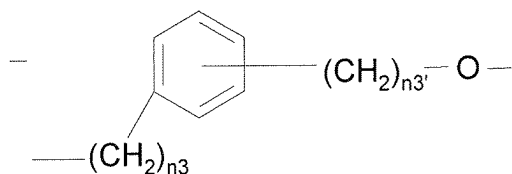
~~(EXXXII) ————— (EXXXIII) ————— (EXXXIV)~~

C = bivalent radical of formula -T<sub>c</sub>-Y

wherein

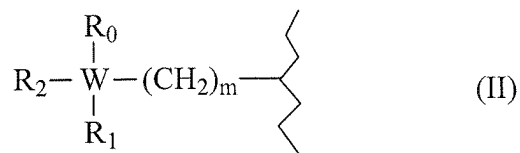
T<sub>c</sub> = (CO); and

Y is an alkylenoxy group -R'O- in which R' is straight or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl, a cycloalkylene with from 5 to 7 carbon atoms, or



wherein n<sub>3</sub> is an integer from 0 to 5 and n<sub>3</sub>' is an integer from 1 to 3;

R is a radical of an analgesic drug of formula (II):



wherein:

W is a carbon atom;

m is 1;

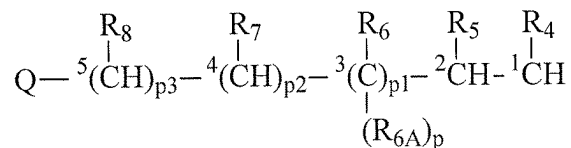
$R_0 = -(CH_2)_n-COOR_y$ , wherein  $R_y = H$ ,  $C_1-C_{10}$ -alkyl, phenyl, or benzyl;

n is an integer of from 0 to 2;

$R_1 = H$ ;

$R_2$  is selected from the following groups:

- phenyl, optionally substituted with a halogen atom or with a group selected from -  
OCH<sub>3</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>, nitro;
- mono or dihydroxy-substituted benzyl;
- amidino group:  $H_2N(C=NH)-$ ;
- a radical of formula (IIA), wherein optionally an ethylenic unsaturation may be present between the carbon atoms in position 1 and 2, or 3 and 4 or 4 and 5:



(IIA)

wherein:

p, p<sub>1</sub>, p<sub>2</sub> are integers, same or different, and are 0 or 1;

$p_3$  in an integer of from 0 to 10;

$R_4$  is hydrogen, straight or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, free valence;

$R_5$  is:

- hydrogen,
- straight or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl,
- $C_3$ - $C_6$ -cycloalkyl, or
- $OR_A$ , wherein  $R_A$  is:
  - straight or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, or
  - phenyl optionally substituted with a halogen atom or with one of the following groups:  $-OCH_3$ ,  $-CF_3$ , nitro;

$R_6$ ,  $R_{6A}$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$ , the same or different, are H, methyl or free valence, with the proviso that when an ethylenic unsaturation is present between  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  in radical of formula (IIA),  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are free valences able to form the double bond between  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ ; if the unsaturation is between  $C_3$  and  $C_4$ ,  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  are free valence able to form the double bond between  $C_3$  and  $C_4$ ; if the unsaturation is between  $C_4$  and  $C_5$ ,  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  are free valence able to form the double bond between  $C_4$  and  $C_5$ ;

$Q$  is H, OH,  $OR_B$ ,  $R_B$  being benzyl, straight or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, preferably F, phenyl optionally substituted with a halogen atom or with one of the following groups:  $-OCH_3$ ,  $-CF_3$ , nitro; or

Q is

~~—straight or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl~~

- C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cycloalkyl,
- guanidino (H<sub>2</sub>NC(=NH)NH-), or
- thioguanidino (H<sub>2</sub>NC(=S)NH-),

in formula (II) R<sub>2</sub> with R<sub>1</sub> and with W = C form together a C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> saturated or unsaturated ring.

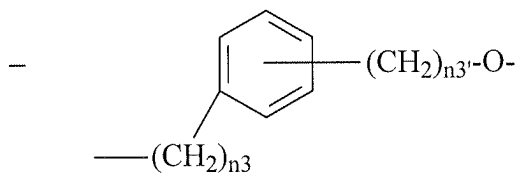
Claim 2. (Canceled).

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to claim 1, wherein in formula

[[I)]:]

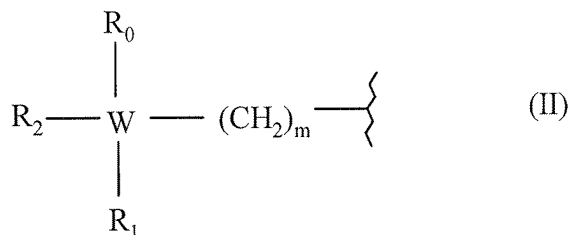
Y is:

an alkylenoxy group -R'O- in which R' is straight or branched C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; or



wherein n<sub>3</sub> is an integer from 0 to 3 and n<sub>3'</sub> is an integer from 1 to 3;

R is the radical of an analgesic drug of formula (II):



wherein:

W is a carbon atom;

m is 1;

$R_0 = -(CH_2)_n-COOH$ , wherein n is an integer of from 0 to 2;

$R_1 = H$ ;

$R_2$  is selected from the following groups:

- 3,4-dihydroxybenzyl; or
- a radical of formula (IIA) as defined in claim 1, wherein:

p and  $p_1$  are 0 or 1;

$p_2$  and  $p_3$  are 0;

$R_4$  and  $R_5$  are hydrogen, straight or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl or free valence;

$R_6$  and  $R_{6A}$  are H;

with the proviso that when an ethylenic unsaturation is present between  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  in

radical of formula (IIA),  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are free valences able to form the double bond

between  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ ;

Q is H,  $CH_3$  or

- guanidino ( $H_2NC(=NH)NH-$ ), or
- thioguanidino ( $H_2NC(=S)NH-$ );



in formula (II)  $R_2$  with  $R_1$  and with W form together a  $C_6$  saturated ring.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) Compounds according to claim 1, wherein when in formula (II)  $W = C$ ,  $m = 1$  and  $R_0 = -(CH_2)_n-COOR_y$ , wherein  $n = 1$  and  $R_y = H$ ;  $R_2$  and  $R_1$  with W as defined above form the cyclohexane ring; the drug precursor of R having the formula  $R-NH_2$  is known as gabapentin;

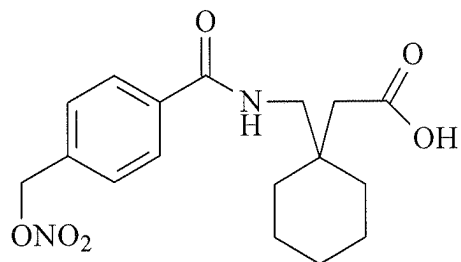
when in formula (II)  $W = C$ ,  $m = 1$  and  $R_0$  is defined as for gabapentin with  $n = 1$ ;  $R_1 = H$ ;  $R_2$  is the radical of formula (IIA) in which  $p = p_1 = p_2 = p_3 = 0$ ,  $R_4 = H$ ,  $R_5 = Q = CH_3$ ; the drug precursor of R having the formula  $R-NH_2$  is known as pregabalin;

when in formula (II)  $W = C$  and has (S) configuration,  $m = 1$  and  $R_0$  is defined as for gabapentin with  $n = 1$ ;  $R_1 = H$ ;  $R_2$  is the radical of formula (IIA) in which  $p = p_1 = p_2 = p_3 = 0$ ,  $R_4 = H$ ,  $R_5 = Q = CH_3$ ; the drug precursor of R having the formula  $R-NH_2$  is known as (S)3-isobutylGABA.

Claim 5. (Canceled).

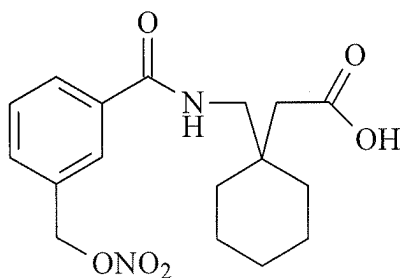
Claim 6. (Previously Presented) Compounds according to claim 1 selected from:

1-[4-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminomethyl]-cyclohexaneacetic acid (XVA),



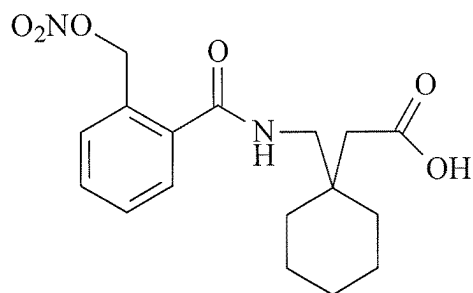
(XVA)

1-[3-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminoethyl]-cyclohexaneacetic acid (XVIA),



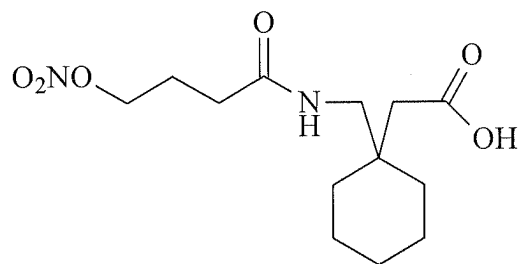
(XVIA)

1-[2-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminoethyl]-cyclohexaneacetic acid (XVIIA),



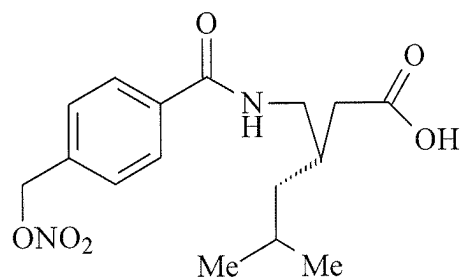
(XVIIA)

1-(4-nitrooxybutanoylaminoethyl)-cyclohexaneacetic acid (XVIII A),



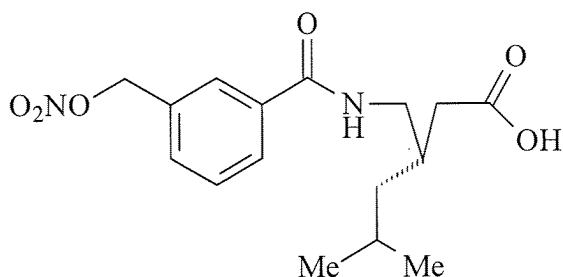
(XVIII A)

3-(S)-[4- (nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminoethyl]-5-methyl-hexanoic acid (XXVA),



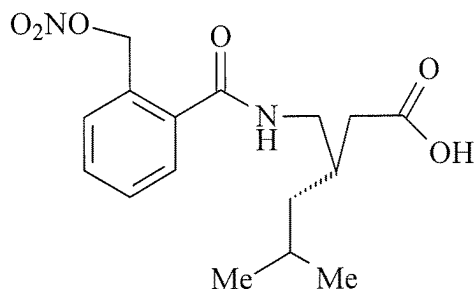
(XXVA)

3-(S)-[3-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminoethyl]-5-methyl-hexanoic acid (XXVIA),



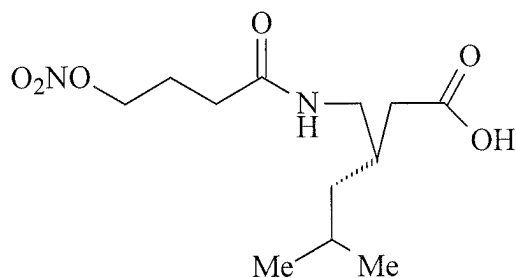
(XXVIA)

3(S)-[2-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminoethyl]-5-methyl-hexanoic acid (XXVIIA),



(XXVIIA)

3(S)-[4-(nitrooxybutanoyl)aminomethyl]-5-methyl-hexanoic acid (XXVIIIA),



(XXVIIIA)

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising: a compound according to claim 1; and a NO-donor compound comprising a radical molecule of a drug selected from the group consisting of: aspirin, salicylic acid, ibuprofen, paracetamol, naproxen, diclofenac and flurbiprofen and at least a group that is an  $-ONO_2$  group or an  $-ONO$  group.

Claim 8. (Canceled).

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) Pharmaceutical compositions comprising compounds according to claim 1 as active ingredients.

Claim 10. (Canceled).

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) A method of treatment of chronic pain comprising administering an effective amount of the compounds according to claim 1.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the chronic pain is neurophatic pain.